

Michael F. Easley Governor

Release: **IMMEDIATE** Contact: Kasey Bensinger Date: 5/27/2004 Phone: (919) 733-5612

EASLEY MAKES APPOINTMENTS TO HISTORIC MURFREESBORO COMMISSION

Raleigh - Gov. Mike Easley has appointed Linda L. Blackburn of Ahoskie and John H. Woodard Jr. of Pendleton and reappointed Wayne R. Brown of Murfreesboro, William G. Lawrence of Murfreesboro, Elizabeth S. Suiter of Ahoskie and William Shurley Vann of Murfreesboro to the Historic Murfreesboro Commission.

Blackburn is the mayor of Ahoskie. She is also the owner and practicing psychotherapist of the Ahoskie Behavioral Counseling Center and director of the Hertford County Office on Aging. She received her bachelor's degree and her master's degree, both in social work, from East Carolina University.

Woodard has been a farmer since 1978. He has also worked in architectural and transportation design. Woodard attended East Carolina University and Massey College.

Brown has been a commission member since 1994. He is the president of Brown's Mobile Home Sales of Murfreesboro. He is a past president of the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce and served on the board of visitors for Chowan College.

Lawrence has been a commission member since 1999. He is the vice chairperson of the Murfreesboro Public Library board of trustees, a board member of the Hertford County Committee and past president of the Rotary Club of Murfreesboro.

Suiter has been a commission member since 1999. She is president of the Ahoskie Garden Club and serves on the Hertford County Board of the North Carolina Symphony.

Vann is a retired architect. He has been a commission member since 1984 and has served as its chair for the past three years. He is a member of the Historical Association in Murfreesboro. Vann received his graduate degree from Florida Southern College.

The commission serves to preserve and restore historic properties in Murfreesboro. There are 34 members on the board, each serving a 5-year term. The governor appoints 30 members.